

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 01300 230905Z

12

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SCCT-01

/060 W

----- 003261

R 230450Z DEC 75

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2640

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 1300

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SY, IZ

SUBJ: BAGHDAD PRESS REPORT

1. DURING PAST WEEK GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED IRAQI PRESS HAS CONTINUED ITS SNIPING AT SYRIAN REGIME. IN DOING SO, PRESS DISPLAYED TRADITIONAL HIGH STANDARDS OF IRRESPONSIBILITY. AMONG OTHER THINGS, SYRIANS WERE ACCUSED OF WORKING FOR THE "DEPLETION AND EROSION" OF THE PALESTINE RESISTANCE MOVEMENT, OF ACCEPTING THE "LIQUIDATIONIST" SAUNDERS DOCUMENT, OF SHOWING UP THE LEBANESE REGIME "WHICH, AS IS WELL KNOWN, IS AMENABLE TO LIQUIDATIONIST FORMULAS", AND OF WORKING TO BRING ABOUT A LEBANESE CEASE-FIRE THAT WOULD DENY TO THE "LEBANESE PATRIOTIC MOVEMENT" THE SUBSTANTIAL VICTORIES THAT COULD OPEN THE WAY TO FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES IN THE POLITICAL AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE OF LEBANON. AS EVIDENCE OF SYRIAN REGIME COLLABORATIONIST TENDENCIES, BAGHDAD PRESS HIGHLIGHTED ASST. SEC. ATHERTON'S REMARK WHEN HE ARRIVED IN DAMASCUS THAT HE FELT

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BAGHDA 01300 230905Z

COMPLETELY AT HOME IN SYRIA.

2. ON DEC. 17 BAGHDAD OBSERVER HEADLINED A STATEMENT DATED IN DAMASCUS FROM "REGIONAL LEADERSHIP OF ARAB BAATH SOCIALIST PARTY IN SYRIA" ATTACKING THE "DEVIATIONIST" SYRIAN REGIME. (PRESS ACCOUNTS DO NOT EXPAND ON THE IDENTITY OR LOCATION OF THIS PUTATIVE ORGANIZATION.) MAIN THRUST OF ATTACK WAS AGAINST ALLEGED EFFORTS OF SYRIAN REGIME TO SELL OUT ARAB RIGHTS IN PALESTINE BY CONSPIRING WITH USG. ALSO INCLUDED IN EXTENSIVE LIST OF ALLEGED SYRIAN SINS WAS A REFERENCE TO "GRANTING TO THE US COMPANY OF TRIPCO (SIC) THE RIGHT OF PROSPECTING ALONG THE SYRIAN COAST."

COMMENT: AN EFFECTIVE IRAQI-SYRIAN "NORTHERN FRONT" SEEMS AS REMOTE AS EVER.

3. ON DEC. 22 PRESS CARRIED ITEM ON THE SIGNING IN BAGHDAD OF AN IRAQI-USSR ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT. TAHA AL JAZRAWI, RCC MEMBER AND MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND MINERALS, SIGNED FOR IRAQ. SOVIET DELEGATION WAS LED BY SEMION SKACHKOVV, CHAIRMAN OF THE ECONOMIC RELATIONS COMMISSION OF THE SOVIET COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND DELEGATE TO THE IRAQI-SOVIET MIXED COMMITTEE. ACCORDING TO PRESS, SOVIET UNION WILL CARRY OUT A NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL, OIL, AGRICULTURAL, AND IRRIGATION PROJECTS UNDER THE AGREEMENT. COMMENT: WHILE ECONOMIC TIES WITH WEST ARE RAPIDLY EXPANDING, REGIME STILL ANXIOUS TO RECEIVE (AND PUBLICIZE) TECHNOLOGICAL AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FROM SOVIET BLOC.

4. BAGHDAD PRESS GAVE LIMITED COVERAGE TO CIEC MEETING IN PARIS BUT HIGHLIGHTED FOREIGN MINISTER HAMMADI'S CALL AT MEETING FOR "RADICAL SOLUTIONS" TO WORLD ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. WILEY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BAGHDA01300
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750445-0237
From: BAGHDAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751217/aaaaaofy.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 MAY 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <26 NOV 2003 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BAGHDAD PRESS REPORT
TAGS: PFOR, SY, IZ, LE, PLO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006